GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1025
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2007
CAG REPORT ON WORKING OF BSNL
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) has pulled up the public sector telecom company, BSNL for the inordinate delays in carrying out its expansion plans;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) in its report has pointed out that BSNL failed to select the suppliers for a major expansion of Cellular Mobile Telephone Services by 641 lakh lines even after the passage of nearly two years;

(d) if so, the other main objections raised by CAG in its report; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the BSNL to improve the situation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a)&(b) Sir, the CAG of India has highlighted some areas where BSNL has to focus to improve its efficiency. Accordingly, BSNL has taken steps to strengthen its machinery in site acquisition, infrastructure creation and in getting clearances from Standing Advisory Committee on radio Frequency Allocation (SACFA).

(c)&(d) The CAG has observed that there were delays at every stage of finalization of the tender.They have further observed that due to delays, there has been loss of opportunity of adding subscribers to the network.

(e) BSNL has since placed Advance Purchase Order (APO) on the successful bidder.